

PERSHING PRATTLE

By PATTIE OLIVER

Hi, there! You can tell by the ooh's and ah's from the girls' gym that modern dance has begun again. These graceful (?) creatures include Andy Mercer, Jerry White, Mary Jo McMahon, Judy Cunningham, and Judy Johnson.

Judy Strader sure made a pretty Snowflake Queen. The ball turned out a great success and all the students owe a lot to the Student Council who sponsored it. The money collected at the ball went for a good cause, though: a directory of teacher's rooms and room numbers bought by the Student Council to help the parents and teachers.

Beware, everybody! Suzanne Robinson, Peggy O'Neal, and Kathy Roshton are sure planning something.

As I am told by a few friends of mine, Ralph Trigg had a little bitty house party December 14. Among those who attended were Nancy Rickards, John Stradinger, and Carolyn Craddock.

Since Christmas is coming up, a few kids have said what they would like to have. Ane Yoder would like to have a few inches added to her height. Jim Fox says he wants to play more in the basketball games. Sheila Johnson would like a certain boy to call MA-6000. In case any rich girl or boy is reading this, Steve Thomas would like a '55 Lincoln convertible, baby blue, with a continental tire kit. Not asking too much, is he?

The Stardusters Dance Club had a formal dance December 5 at Braeburn Country Club. Those attending were Judy Cunningham, Jimmy Hunt, Ann Echols, John Hamm, Loulyn Kelly, Mack Kidd, Marilyn Mott, Scott Charlton, Judy Strader, and Jim Fox.

What's this new word Sharon Parisi, Judy Pettit, and Polly Poole have invented? . . . gungadiny?

Some of the bright things people do! Like sitting down right in the middle of the floor right in the middle of a formal dance and flipping. In connection with this (if you know what I mean), some of the kids at the Snowflake Ball were Norma Adams, Ronnie Sanders, Cecile Epting, Gene Marshall, Jane Yoder, and Bob Johnson.

Sometimes I wonder if the kids at other schools have as much fun with their gym teachers as we have with ours. Another episode has been added to the books. Miss Walters, while demonstrating how to make a basket in basketball, accidentally hit the custodian as he walked by. That'll show 'em.

Mildred McDaniel had a slumber (less) party December 10. Some of the tired, groggy girls were Carolyn Williams, Anne Weaver, Pam Farrell, and Barbara Jean Lee.

The prankster of the gym department, Linda Hill, and her shifty-eyed companion, Sara Morgan, were gunning around Las Palmas apartments lately, peeking in each door to find their beloved teacher, Miss Walters. What episode could possibly have taken place when they were discovered?

The latest members of the Dunk, Swim, and Fish Club are Judy Strader and Patti Oliver.

The kind heart of Norma Adams took hold on her when she decided to be "Maid for a Night" at Retig's. This stirring event took place after "Faraway Places" when the above-mentioned establishment was bulging with kids who have such small (?) appetites.

In Spanish class the students were to hand in pictures of things. Under them something was to be

A Letter To Santa

Dere Santy:

Me and my wittle friends at Pershing would like to let you know what we want for Xmas. Good? Yes sir, we are the most, the very most when it comes to being Xtra good jus' before Santa comes at Xmas. Here are our wishes:

Doug Cunningham—Ford convertible equipped with a blonde with big blue eyes.

Virginia Webb—Tommy Beyon is all I want.

Donald Smith—A Latin text with blank pages.

Lee Lillie—Just one little ole "A" in Math. Please?

Cecile Epting—I'll settle for Eddie Fisher.

Wild Bill Yancey—A carload of good looking girls from Lanier.

Pat Sherrill—A four-seated bicycle so I can double date in comfort.

Trulah Everett—A boop e doop.

Len Grebe—Whatsa boop e doop?

Steve Thomas—Make Brenda Heid my number one fan!

Lee Raesener—Beautiful Dolls: call MA-2644 and ask for Lee.

Carolyn Freedman—Get my boy friend to let me drive that new yellow Ford.

Arlene Spinks—Calling Dan McClain. Answer requested.

Jane Yoder—Um Feliz Hatal, Joyeux Noel, Kung Ho Swen Lan.

James Dunaway—A new typewriter with a built-in fire extinguisher.

Steve Holaday—Some real snazzy telephone numbers from Austin Senior High.

Tony Augustine—Enuff credits to leave dere ole Pershing.

Patti Oliver—How about a "White Christmas?"

Ben Jones—A larger mouth so I can talk more.

Carol McDonald—I want a—no, I don't—aw, I'm too bashful to tell ya.

Priscilla Randolph—A pogo stick.

John Wohman—Everything, just everything.

Jim Henderson—A trip in a space ship.

Jerry Schwartz—To baby-sit with Harriet Lieberman.

Lloyd Lindinger—A blonde, brunette, or redhead.

Judy Polinski—An Indian from Lamar yecept Bill Franklin.

Me—A million autographed pictures of George Washington.

Thank you, Santy. we love ya.

—BILL GAY

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By KENNETH CARR

Basketball is on the minds of Pershing sports fans and will be even more so after the Christmas holidays. The first games after the holidays will be played January 5th between the A and B teams of Pershing and Johnston.

The game to be played at Pershing will be the B team game. Mr. Thompson's B team, for boys 5 feet 5 inches and under, won first place in the city last season and the consolation championship.

Homemaking Classes Make Yule Projects

Students in the sewing and cooking classes are making Christmas projects. The most popular project is the making of net aprons with all sorts of Christmas decorations. Many girls are bringing balls, pine cones, and bells which will be used on their projects.

Most of these items can be seen in the display cases near the homemaking department. Included in this display are many beautiful candles made in class.

Short Stories To Be Submitted To Contest

English teachers of Pershing are planning to submit the best short stories written by the Low Nine English students to the Anthologist Committee for evaluation.

The entries from Pershing this year are by Ann Echols, Polly Poole, Carolyn Craddock, Jim Tiddle, and Harriet Hecker. There will also be entries from all other Junior High Schools in Houston.

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in the Jaycee Tournament. They have a good chance of repeating as city champions again this year.

The A team, coached by Mr. Gross and for boys over 5 feet 5 inches, has a good tall group of boys which is one of the best in our school's history. They will play the Johnston A team at Johnston.

We had a good football team and have a large school, but by our attendance at the games one would never believe it. During basketball season, let's really support our teams. The games are only a dime and are right after school. Now let's have everybody out yelling for Pershing.

The players are: A Team—Robert Arbaugh, Don Ballard, Mark Bowden, Kenneth Carr, Bill Flesner, Jim Fox, David Harris, Rayford High, Shell Hogue, Ashley Hooper, Ed Hunt, Jimmy Hunt, Gus Koerner, Lee Raesener, Gordon Scarborough, Steve Tatem, Stephen Thomas, and Delber Turner.

B Team—Jimmy Burly, Gayle Carnahan, Dick Cramer, Marshall Gains, Pat Haragan, Bill Hogue, Butch Howard, Bob Jenkins, Bill Keller, Sonny Ladin, Tommy Ledbetter, Joel Mathis, Weldon Morgan, Jim Patzke, Jerry Perkins, Dave Redford, Jim Ridge, Lee Schlanger, Tommy Stephens, Joe Taylor, and Curt Weyerman.

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Number 3

Snowflake Queen Crowned

Seventh Grade Leads School On Honor Roll

The seventh grade topped the eighth and ninth grades again for the second time, after the Chatter Club tallied the lists of all A-H students reported at the end of the second six weeks.

Of the students reported, the seventh grade led with 38 students making all A's and an H in conduct. The eighth grade had 27 students with grades of this caliber, and the ninth grade had 22 students receiving all A's and H's.

"All A-H Students" totaled out as fifty eight were girls and thirty seven were boys. Below are the names of these students and their homeroom, Richardson's homeroom having the most all-A students—a total of 7.

L-7

Bond's homeroom:

Betsy Moses

Borden's homeroom:

Margo Fowler

Corson's homeroom:

Mary Stephens

Susan Switer

Day's homeroom:

Jan Carruthers

Ella Jane Chavis

Carolyn Clout

Edwin Burton

Hamner's homeroom:

Robert French

Susan Forrester

Leggett's homeroom:

Joyce Turner

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INFORMATION CORNER

Do not forget to return your library books on January 2.

All library books must be returned and fines paid by January 21st, or report cards will be held.

The library will be open for use from January 17-21, but books will not be checked out.

* * *

LOST AND FOUND

OPEN

8:10 — 8:30 A.M.

3:00 — 3:15 P.M.

CLUB PERIODS



QUEEN OF THE BALL—Newly crowned Snowflake Queen Judy Strader with her escort Charlie Church. The Student Council presented her with dozen red roses.

Photo By Schramm

Too Often Forgotten

The Christmas Story

By RICHARD CUNNINGHAM

Do you know whose birthday will be celebrated soon? Jesus Christ was born almost 2,000 years ago. We celebrate his birthday every December 25. Nearly all that we know about the life of the founder of Christianity is contained in the four gospels of the New Testament in the Bible.

No other person brings so much happiness to so many people, and no other holiday is so widely recognized. More than half the nations on the globe celebrate his birthday. "Glory to God in the highest and on earth peace, good will, toward men" is the inspiring message it brings. The exact date of Christ's birth is not known.

For over 200 years after Christ was born, the Christians were persecuted. Finally they decided to find out Christ's birth so they could celebrate his mass, thus we get the word Christmas. The Christians couldn't decide on an exact date. Some celebrated at different occasions than others. Finally all Christian Churches accepted December 25, as the date of Christ's birth.

The yule log, the boar's head, Christmas trees, carols, the manger scene, and church services are all part of Christmas and make the wonderful holiday what it now is. Santa Claus is most surely an important part of celebrating Christmas, but let's not let Santa Claus take Christ's place in our hearts.

The beauty of Christ's teachings have brought him love and respect from just about every country there is. Due to this difference in love and respect each country celebrates Christmas the way they want to. Here are some of the countries of the world and their Christmas customs.

In England there probably is no land in any age whose celebration is as colorful and festive as old England was. This celebration started sometimes as early as Halloween and lasted until the Twelfth day. The day after Christmas is called boxing day. Priests give boxes of money away to the poor, servants, tradesmen, and others who helped the public.

In Scandinavian countries the "Jul" or Christmas holidays last two weeks. The Scandinavian children are visited by the Tomtes who are two

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Judy Strader Is Voted New Queen

By KAY SCHRAMM

Judy Strader was crowned the new Queen of the Snowflake Ball at the annual formal dance which is sponsored each year just before Christmas by the Student Council.

The dance this year was held Friday, December 3, from 7:30 p.m. to 10:30 p.m. in the Pershing cafeteria.

Judy, one of our cheerleaders, was elected Queen of the Ball by the student body. She was selected by the students from candidates chosen from each club in school. Judy represented both the Dramatic Club and the Cartoonist Club. She received about 103 votes. Marilu Ellis and Janet Galeener came in second and third. Judy was crowned by Student Council President Bob Johnson. Mack Kidd presented the queen with one dozen red roses.

Christmas Food Baskets Planned

Christmas cheer will be Pershing's message to many needy families again this year, to be delivered in the form of baskets of food prepared by Pershing students and faculty.

Pershing's Homemakers and the Student Council are sponsoring several needy families for Christmas. Many homerooms are also sponsoring families for Christmas dinner. Other homerooms are supplying Christmas trees and gifts.

Mrs. Richardson's homeroom is sponsoring a colored family with five children for Christmas dinner. Mrs. Barnes' homeroom is also sponsoring a colored family with seven children. A veteran's family and wife are also being provided for by some of the Pershing homerooms. These families are all going to be given carefully wrapped presents and a large turkey dinner with all the trimmings.

"We know there are many other families being provided with this kind of Christmas cheer, but we wish that everyone would be kind-hearted enough to sponsor a family for Christmas or at least contribute food, gifts, or maybe a Christmas tree to needy families," Mrs. Richardson said.

Some of the more well known candidates were: Marilu Ellis, Janet Galeener, Prissy Lindsey, Marsha Lyon, Sally Hymer, Martha Lanier, Dianne Frank, Peg Wright, Kay (Continued on Page 3)

Broken Arm Not Handicap, Just A New Challenge

Sue Jones, a student in Mrs. Richter's homeroom, was recently recognized when she finished her project in Mrs. Lord's seventh period clothing class.

It may seem unimportant that a student should finish a project, especially when it's done every day. Well, this case is a little different. Sue was pitched from a horse and her fall resulted in a broken arm.

In spite of this disability, Sue not only finished her skirt project (and did an excellent job) but also kept up with her studies, writing with her left hand.

Certainly, someone with that much courage should be highly commended. Most students would have been happy to have a broken arm as an excuse to loaf.

Cover Artist Uses Past, Future Panda

Alan Sumner, a low eighth grader in Dr. Koepke's homeroom, is the cover artist of Pershing's new student directory. Alan used the same character panda for the cover as on last year's cover, which was drawn by Harris Milam. It is planned to be used on future directories.